

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 JUSE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12
NEA-11 /167 W

-----046347 191931Z /43

P 191848Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9907

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USMTN

ACTION STR

STR PASS CODEL

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD
SUBJECT: INFORMAL 7 7 ON STATUS OF REQUEST OFFERS AND
- CONTRIBUTIONS

1. SUMMARY: SESSION CALLED BY D. G. LONG TO DISCUSS
REQUESTS, OFFERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS WITH LDC'S WAS SUBDUED
IN TONE WITH NEARLY ALL DELEGATIONS EXPRESSING BELIEF
THAT JULY 15 SETTLEMENT OF THE MTN WAS POSSIBLE. ONLY
DISSIDENT VOICE IN THIS REGARD WAS AMB. GREY (CANADA) WHO
INTERPRETED JULY 15 AS A BROAD POLITICAL SETTLEMENT BY
MAJOR PARTICIPANTS WHICH WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE
NEGOTIATIONS THEREAFTER. BIG THREE REBUTTED THIS INTER-
PRETATION BY STATING THAT ALL NEGOTIATING DOORS AND LOOP-
HOLES WOULD BE CLOSED LEAVING ROOM ONLY FOR TECHNICAL
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REFINEMENT (LUYTEN-EC), THAT A MAJOR PACKAGE WOULD BE
AGREED (UKAWA-JAPAN), AND THAT IMPROVEMENTS IN OFFERS
SUBSEQUENT TO JULY 15 WERE UNLIKELY AND THEREFORE PARTICI-
PATION NECESSARY BY ALL PRIOR TO JULY 15 (MCDONALD-US).
LDC'S INDICATED THAT ALL REQUESTS WERE UNDER STUDY IN
CAPITALS, THAT THEY WERE AWAITING RESPONSE TO THEIR
REQUESTS AND THAT GREATER TRANSPARENCY WAS NECESSARY IN

THE CODE OR NORMATIVE AREAS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. LDC CALL FOR TRANSPARENCY WAS STRONGLY ENDORSED BY SMALL DC'S. BRAZIL, ARGENTINA AND ANDEANS INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO TABLE SPECIFIC OFFERS IN JUNE. NOTEWORTHY COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO NEGOTIATING GROUPS. END SUMMARY.

2. SUBSIDIES, COUNTERVAILING DUTIES & CUSTOMS VALUATION - VIRTUALLY ALL DELEGATIONS THAT SPOKE EXPRESSED THEIR DISQUIET THAT THEY WERE UNAWARE OF THE STATE OF DISCUSSIONS ON SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES. BRAZIL, EGYPT, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA AND CANADA IDENTIFIED THIS AS A KEY AREA OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH TRANSPARENCY WAS NON-EXISTENT AND REQUESTED THAT A NEGOTIATING TEXT BE DISTRIBUTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AMB. GREY PARTICULARLY BELABORED THIS, POINTING OUT HE COULD NOT MAKE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEGOTIATIONS IF HE WAS NOT INVITED TO MEETINGS. WITH RESPECT TO CUSTOMS VALUATION, AUSTRALIA AND ARGENTINA MADE SIMILAR POINTS OBSERVING THAT A NEW CODE ON CUSTOMS VALUATION WOULD REQUIRE MAJOR CHANGES IN THEIR SYSTEMS AND THESE WOULD HAVE TO BE IDENTIFIED FOR THEM TO EVALUATE THEIR PARTICIPATION.

3. GRAINS - AMB. MARTINEZ OF ARGENTINA OPENED DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC BY OBSERVING THAT THE CEREALS NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NOT BE RESUMED UNTIL SEPTEMBER IN UNCTAD AND IT WAS THE VIEW OF HIS DELEGATION THAT WITHOUT A SETTLEMENT ON GRAINS THERE COULD BE NO COMPLETION OF THE MTN. MARTINEZ LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS ALSO EXPRESSED PROBLEMS FOR A MULTI-FORA (I.E. UNCTAD IWC AND MTN) NATURE OF NEGOTIATIONS. D. G. LONG OBSERVED THAT AS SOON AS THE JUNE IWC SESSIONS WERE COMPLETED THERE WOULD BE A GRAINS MEETING IN GENEVA. LUYTEN ASSURED THE GROUP THAT BROAD ESSENTIAL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED IN JUNE LEAVING SUFFICIENT TIME TO CONSIDER WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IN THE MTN. UKAWA SPEAKING AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE GRAINS NEGOTIATIONS SAID THERE WAS A STRONG WILL TO ARRIVE AT SUCH AN AGREEMENT BEFORE THE GRAINS MEETING IN THE MTN.

4. PRODUCTS SPECIFIC NEGOTIATIONS - LDC'S THAT SPOKE (BRAZIL, EGYPT, ANDEAN, MEXICO AND INDIA) INDICATED THAT ALTHOUGH PROGRESS IN BILATERALS WERE FAR FROM IDEAL EXPRESSED THEIR BASIC SATISFACTION THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN JOINED. THEY EXPRESSED SOME DISQUIET ABOUT GOING FORWARD AT THE SAME SPEED AND EFFICIENCY AS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES BUT REFRAINED FROM INDICATING THAT JULY 15 WAS NOT POSSIBLE. ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND THE ANDEANS INDICATED THAT THEIR AUTHORITIES WERE PREPARING SPECIFIC OFFERS WHICH WOULD BE TABLED IN JUNE. INDIA, MEXICO STOPPED SHORT OF MAKING A SIMILAR STATEMENT BUT INDICATED

THEY WOULD SEEK CREDIT FOR RECENT TRADE LIBERALIZATIONS.
ALL WHO SPOKE INDICATED THEIR OFFER WOULD BE CONDITIONAL
ON RESPONSES TO THEIR REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL AND DIFFEREN-
TIAL TREATMENT WHICH THEY WERE AWAITING. US-AMB. MCDONALD
WELCOMED THESE INITIATIVES AND STATED THAT ALL SHOULD
COME FORWARD WITH THEIR SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS NOTING
THAT IF THIS STEP WERE NOT TAKEN IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT
TO MAINTAIN AN ALREADY GENEROUS OFFER MUCH LESS TO
CONSIDER IMPROVEMENTS.

5. TRANSPARENCY - ALTHOUGH LDC'S IDENTIFIED THIS AS A
PROBLEM IN THE NEGOTIATIONS SEVERAL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
EMPHASIZED THIS POINT. AMB. GREY LIVENING TO THE DEBATE
STATED THAT HE COULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS
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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
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SINCE HE WAS NOT BEING INVITED TO MEETINGS. THE NORDICS
(AMB. DEGEER) AGREED THAT MORE TRANSPARENCY WAS NECESSARY

BUT EXPLAINED THAT ISSUES HAD TO BE PREPARED BEFORE DISCUSSIONS COULD BE ENLARGED. LDC'S EXPRESSED THEIR DISQUIET WITH THE PATTERN OF TWO PARALLEL NEGOTIATIONS, THOSE BETWEEN DC'S AND BETWEEN DC'S AND LDC'S BUT REALISTICALLY RECOGNIZED THAT SOME ISSUES REQUIRED INTRA DC SETTLEMENT BEFORE PROGRESS COULD BE MADE. THE BIG THREE RESPONDED BY DETAILING THE NUMBER OF CONSULTATIONS THEY HAD HELD ON NORMATIVE OR CODE AREAS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND STATED THEY WOULD BE PREPARED TO KEEP ALL DELEGATIONS FULLY INFORMED. WITH RESPECT TO SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT AMB. MCDONALD INDICATED THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR THE LDC'S TO MAKE NEW AND MORE REALISTIC PROPOSALS ON S&D SINCE IT SHOULD BE CLEAR BY NOW THAT MANY LDC POSITIONS ARE NOT REALISTIC. LUYTEN ONCE AGAIN SOUGHT SUPPORT FOR CIRCULATING LDC REQUESTS FOR S&D ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARIFFS TO ASSURE GREATER TRANSPARENCY BUT NO OTHER DELEGATION TOOK UP THIS THEME.

6. COMMENT: MEETING UNDERLINED APPARENT SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH ALL DELEGATIONS WERE TRYING TO REACH A JULY 15 SETTLEMENT. ANNOUNCEMENT BY SOME LDC'S OF THEIR INTENTION TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS WAS ALSO ENCOURAGING.

7. DRAFTED BY GRAEF. MCDONALD

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Message Attributes

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